

OLNA PREPARATION COURSES



Have you heard of the OLNA?

If your child is planning to apply for university, they need to study within an ATAR program from Year 11 onwards. In order to be eligible to enter an ATAR program, they need to pass the OLNA in Year 10. In addition to this, in order to graduate from a WA secondary school with the WACE, he/she will have to complete the OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment).

The OLNA has 3 components: Reading, Writing and Numeracy with three separate assessments. Phoenix Academy in West Perth/Leederville is offering special out of school programs designed to prepare students currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 for the OLNA.

The Phoenix OLNA Preparation Course focuses on Reading and Writing assessments.

Course Details:

COURSE A

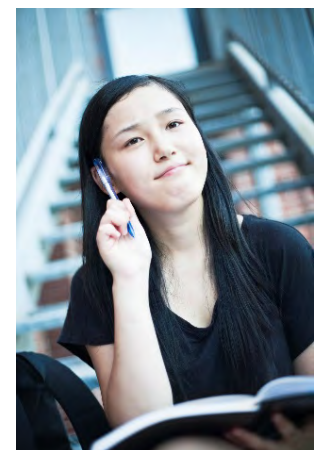
Wednesday June 20th, 27th, July 4th, 11th.

1.5 hours each totaling 6 hours.

Fees: \$200

COURSE FEATURES

- Qualified and experienced teachers
- Specially designed for secondary school students
- Useful exam tips and techniques
- Exam practice
- Individualised feedback
- Classes held in Phoenix computer lab



Next OLNA exam will be held between 27 August–21 September 2018

For further details or to enrol please contact:

info@phoenix.wa.edu.au Tel 9235 6000

www.phoenix.wa.edu.au



OLNA Overview

OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment)

- Can be taken in Years 10, 11 and 12
- Pre-requisite for achieving WACE end Year 12
- 3 components: Reading, Writing (typed online, max 600 words) and Numeracy
- Students exempt if score Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN
- Administered in March and September to students in Years 10, 11 and 12, as required

As part of the new *Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)* students must demonstrate a minimum standard in both literacy and numeracy. To demonstrate their competence, Year 10 students, who had not achieved a Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN (Reading, Writing and Numeracy), were required to sit Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessments (OLNA) in March 2015.

The *School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCASA)*, who set and mark the OLNA testing has provided the schools with the students' results. .

Results

Based on the results of these tests SCASA places all Western Australian Year 10 students in one of 3 Categories of Achievement:

Category 3 (PASS): Students have demonstrated the minimum standard, either through OLNA or Year 9 NAPLAN. *These students can select ATAR (provided they have the pre-requisite grades), General or Vocational subjects in Year 11.*

Category 2: Students have not yet demonstrated the minimum standard but are expected to do so before the end of Year 12. *These students can enrol in General and Vocational subjects in Year 11 and ATAR subjects for which they have the grade pre-requisite.*

Category 1: Students have not demonstrated the minimum standard and may require specific learning interventions. *These students will enrol in Foundation courses in English and/or Mathematics in Year 11 and other General and Vocational courses.*

Category NSA: Students who did not sit the OLNA testing.

If you have any other questions concerning the OLNA testing and results, please raise them with your Subject Selection Counsellor.

Click here to visit the [School Curriculum and Standards Authority OLNA page](#) on which you can take a practice test, details from which have been represented below.

Requirements

Please view the [requirements page](#) for more details, and ensure the screen is zoomed to exactly 100% before you log-in.

Students

You must not

- use calculators, mobile phones, prepared notes, dictionaries or spell checkers
- access other programs or websites during the assessment
- look at other students' screens
- disrupt other students taking the assessment

You may


- use blank working-out paper, pens, pencils and erasers
- skip questions and come back to them later
- use the full time allocated to finish each assessment

You must

- read and accept the Student agreement that is listed below
- enter your username and your password and tick 'I accept the Student agreement' to login
- return all working-out paper to the assessment supervisor before you leave

Student agreement

- I agree not to leave the assessment site during the assessment period.
 - I acknowledge that attempts to access other sites, use other applications or access calculators will be recorded.
 - I do not have any unauthorised materials in my possession, including mobile phones, Bluetooth/wireless/photographic/audio or web-enabled devices, headphones, calculators, dictionaries, thesauruses or notes.
 - I will not disrupt other students. I will not visit other websites if I finish the assessment early.
 - I understand that this is an assessment of my ability and any actions that I take to gain an unfair advantage will be considered a breach to this student agreement.
 - I understand that penalties apply to a breach to this student agreement, such as the cancellation of results for this assessment component.
-



 School Curriculum and Standards Authority

olna

Instructions

There are 45 questions. You have 50 minutes to complete them.

To answer a question, click on the answer you think is best. To change your answer, click on another answer.


To move to the next question, click on the "Next" button. You may also use the navigation bar to jump between questions.


Wait here until the teacher tells you to start.

Click **"Start"** to begin the test.

Start

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 School Curriculum and Standards Authority

Example test – Reading

olna

0:00:05 / 0:50:00

This is the table of contents from a car manual.

Contents

Safety	3
Instruments and controls	4
Climate control	7
Audio	8
Interior	10
Locks and alarm	12
Starting and driving	13
Wheels and tyres	15
Maintenance and service	16
Specifications	17
Index	20

For information about operating the clock, which page would you choose?

4

8

13

16

Check Answer

1 of 45

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

Question 7

Question 8


Question 9

Question 10

Question 11


Next

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Example test – Reading

This is a sign at a train station.



Which punctuation error has been made in this sign?

- Capital letters at the start of sentences are missing
- Some full stops are missing
- A question mark is missing
- An apostrophe is missing

3 of 45

Question 3

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

Question 7

Question 8

Question 9

Question 10

Question 11

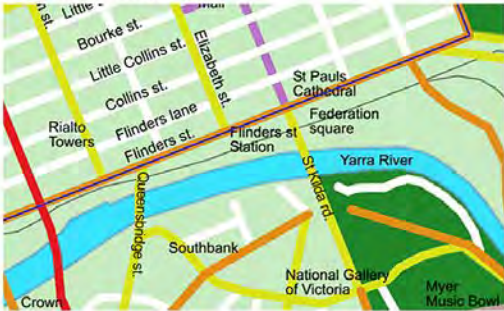
Question 12

Next

11:05 AM NewZeal

Example test – Reading

This map shows part of the city of Melbourne



If you walked directly from Federation Square to the National Gallery of Victoria which of these would you do?

- pass the Myer Music Bowl
- cross Elizabeth Street
- cross the Yarra River
- pass Rialto Towers

4 of 45

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

Question 7

Question 8

Question 9

Question 10

Question 11


Question 12

Question 13

Next

Check Answer

11:06 AM NewZeal


School Curriculum and Standards Authority
Example test – Reading
 olma

0:05:10 / 0:50:00

This is the same text as the one you have just read. The question is different.

Currency Exchange Rates

Units of foreign currency you receive in exchange for each Australian dollar (AUD)

CURRENCY	3 June	4 June	5 June
United States dollar	0.78	0.77	0.78
Chinese renminbi	4.81	4.79	4.72
Japanese yen	96.90	96.03	95.84
European euro	0.69	0.68	0.67

What is meant by the term foreign currency in this table?

money used in countries other than Australia
 money used by visitors to Australia
 notes and coins used in the United States
 old-fashioned money

Check Answer

13 of 45

Question 10

Question 11

Question 13

Question 16

Question 17

Question 18

Question 19

Question 20

Question 21

Question 22

Next

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Assessment Master

Task-10-Information...pdf VET-VET6-VRF-B...DOCX

Show all downloads

Search the web and Windows

11:00 AM NewZeal


School Curriculum and Standards Authority
Example test – Reading
 olma

0:08:52 / 0:50:00

This is the same text as the one you have just read. The question is different.

A singer of the bush
Bonita Patterson

There is a waving of grass in the breeze
 And a song in the air,
 And a murmur of myriad bees
 That toil everywhere.
 There is scent in the blossom and bough,
 And the breath of the Spring
 Is as soft as a kiss on a brow --
 And Spring-time I sing.

There is drought on the land, and the stock
 Tumble down in their tracks
 Or follow -- a tottering flock --
 The scrub-cutter's axe.
 While ever a creature survives
 The axes shall swing:
 We are fighting with fate for their lives --
 And the combat I sing.

In the poem, which pair of words is used as a rhyme?

blossom, bough
 tracks, axe
 song, sing
 air, their

39 of 45

Question 37

Question 38

Question 39

Question 40

Question 41

Question 42

Question 43

Question 44

Question 45

Close answers


Next

Task-10-Information...pdf VET-VET6-VRF-B...DOCX

Show all downloads

Search the web and Windows

11:10 AM NewZeal


School Curriculum and Standards Authority
Example test – Reading
0:09:55 / 0:50:00

olna

This is a sign in licensed premises

Acceptable proof-of-age ID

One of these must be shown to gain entry to this venue.

Current Australian driver's licence with photo
 Current passport
 Official WA proof-of-age card


It is an offence to give false or misleading evidence of proof-of-age.
(Liquor Control Act 1988)

Which of these is an acceptable proof-of-age document for the venue?

- a driver's licence with no photo
- an international driver's licence
- a university student card with a photo
- a valid British passport

[Check Answer](#)

40 of 45
 Question 37
 Question 38
 Question 39
Question 40
 Question 41
 Question 42
 Question 43
 Question 44
 Question 45
 Unattempted
[Next](#)


School Curriculum and Standards Authority
Example test – Reading
0:11:32 / 0:50:00

olna

The two sentences below are from a recount of a severe thunderstorm

Records show that the temperature rose to 45.2 degrees Celsius by 2.15 pm and the wind speeds reached 35 km/h. The atmosphere was threatening and unpleasantly hot.


Which description of the two sentences fits best?

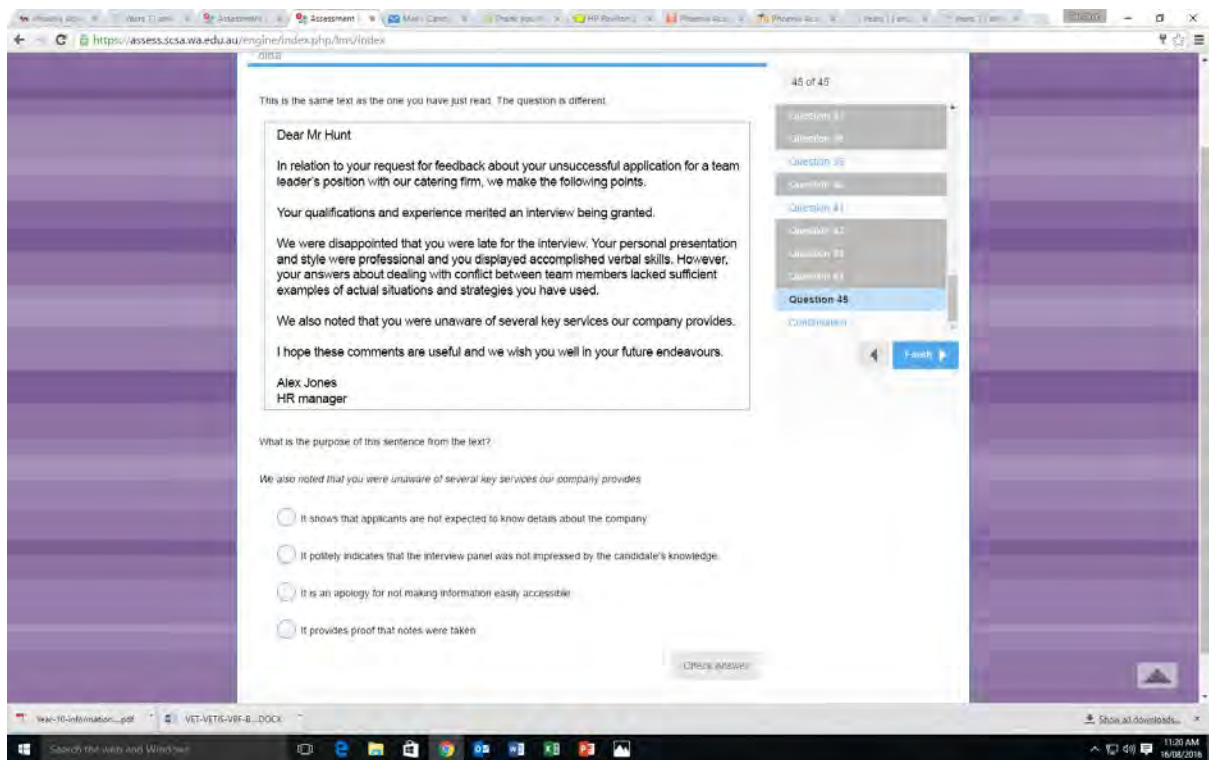
- Both sentences are facts.
- The first sentence is likely to be a fact, the second is an opinion.
- Both sentences are opinions.
- The first sentence is an opinion, the second is a fact.

[Check Answer](#)

42 of 45
 Question 37
 Question 38
 Question 39
 Question 40
 Question 41
Question 42
 Question 43
 Question 44
 Question 45
 Unattempted
[Next](#)

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According to the Media Statement released [here](#), by Minister for Education Peter Collier on 1 November 2015:

- 78% of Year 11 students meet WACE literacy and numeracy standard
- Students have another year to meet minimum requirements
- Changes ensure students graduate with real skills

In numeracy, 84.3 per cent of Year 11 students and 80.2 per cent of Year 10 students have met the standard.

In reading, 88.1 per cent of Year 11 students and 86.7 per cent of Year 10 students have met the standard.

In writing, 85.6 per cent of Year 11 students and 82.9 per cent of Year 10 students have met the standard.

Assessment dates

Component	2018		2017 (provisional)	
	Round One	Round Two	Round One	Round Two
Writing	6–9 March	27–30 August	5–8 March	2–5 September
Numeracy and Reading	6–29 March	27 August– 21 September	5–29 March	2–27 September

References

<https://assess.scsa.wa.edu.au/engine/index.php/lms/index>

<https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Barnett/2015/11/OLNA-results-on-track-for-WA-students.aspx>

<http://safetybay.wa.edu.au/News/tabid/65/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/101/OLNA-results-explained.aspx>

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/national/olna-test-one-in-10-wa-year-12-students-might-not-graduate/news-story/99e5aa25a7b8dfca7932dd17da62a22b>



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: OLNA PREPARATION COURSE

(1) What's the difference between Course A and Course B?

The Course A is only 8 hours long, whereas Course B is 18 hours. Course A focuses on becoming familiar with the exam and practicing techniques and tips for passing. Course B is designed for students who need more assistance with language, understanding the task as well as exam practice.

(2) Are there age limits to enrol in the course?

Typically, students would be currently enrolled in Year 9, 10 or 11, but there is no age limit as such.

(3) What if my child has already passed the NAPLAN?

It depends on what band they achieved. If they scored Band 8 or higher in the Year 9 NAPLAN then they are exempt from the OLNA.

(4) Is the NAPLAN the same as the OLNA?

No, it is not. The OLNA is administered in Year 10 and is used to determine whether students can enter the ATAR stream at the beginning of year 11 (which is used for university entry) or the General stream which has a vocational pathway in year 11 and 12.

The other difference is that the NAPLAN is a pen and paper test and the OLNA is all online.

The NAPLAN is used to assess school success whereas the OLNA is used to determine individual student success.

(5) Can I pay in instalments?

Course A fee must be paid as a lump sum and received at least 2 working days prior to the course commencement.

Course B fee can be paid in two instalments the first is due two working days prior to course commencement and the balance at the end of the first week of the course.

(6) What if my child doesn't have their own E learning device?

Phoenix has a computer lab so every student will have access to a PC.

(7) How many times can my child sit for the OLNA?

There will be opportunities to re-sit the OLNA up until September of Year 12 however these rules may change over time. The OLNA is available every March and September for all students in years 10,11 and 12.

(8) How much does it cost to do the OLNA?

There is no cost while students are enrolled in high school.

(9) How many students in one OLNA Preparation class at Phoenix?

Maximum of 20 per class.

(10) Who will be teaching the OLNA class at Phoenix?

Senior and very experienced Phoenix High School Preparation Teachers who have the Certificate in Language, Literacy and Numeracy.

(11) Will Phoenix be running any more OLNA courses in 2018?

Yes, Phoenix will be offering ongoing OLNA Preparation courses throughout 2018.

(12) Is Phoenix able to go to a school and run OLNA classes in the schools directly

Yes, if there are at least 20 enrolments then Phoenix can send a teacher directly to a school for after school OLNA classes

(13) Do you have any courses for High School teachers who want to help their students pass the OLNA?

Yes, Phoenix offers a one day intensive LLN (Language, Literacy and Numeracy) course especially designed for teachers who wish to assist their students pass the OLNA. This course is part of the Australian Qualifications Course TAE10 Training and Assessment Certificate IV.



Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) – Frequently asked questions for students



Why do we have to do this assessment?

Tertiary institutions, employers and the community have requested greater assurances about the standards of literacy and numeracy achieved by students at the end of Year 12. To achieve a WACE from 2016, you will need to demonstrate minimum standards of literacy and numeracy, either by achieving Band 8 or above in reading, writing and numeracy in your Year 9 NAPLAN or by demonstrating the standards through the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).



Do we have to complete the OLNA?

If you achieved Band 8 or above in the Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing or numeracy tests you will not be required to sit the corresponding components of the OLNA. If not, you will be required to demonstrate the standards through the OLNA to meet that requirement to be eligible to achieve a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).



What are the required standards?

The OLNA assesses the skills regarded as essential for you to meet the demands of everyday life and work in a knowledge-based economy. These skills are described in Level 3 of the [Australian Core Skills Framework](#).



What happens if I don't meet the required standards before the end of Year 12?

If you do not meet the required standards you are not eligible for a WACE. However, you will still receive a Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA) which provides a formal record of what you have achieved during your secondary schooling.

Q Can I still sit the OLNA after Year 12, so I can achieve a WACE?

After you have left school there will be opportunities to sit the OLNA as many times as necessary to demonstrate that you have reached the required standards. Information about these opportunities will be sent out to you at the time you receive your WASSA.

When you have demonstrated the required standards and you have met all of the other requirements, you will be awarded the WACE. (Note: The requirements may change over time and students studying towards the achievement of the WACE after they leave school will be required to meet the WACE requirements current at the time of the completion of their studies.)

Q When and where can I do the OLNA?

Your school will schedule and supervise your assessment. Opportunities will be provided for you to sit the assessment each March and September from Year 10 until you have demonstrated the required standard.

For home-educated students see question: [I am educated at home. Can I sit the OLNA?](#)

Q What does the assessment involve?

There are three online assessment components – reading, writing and numeracy. The reading and numeracy components comprise 45 multiple-choice questions and you have 50 minutes to complete each of them. The writing component is an extended response of up to 600 words. You have 60 minutes to complete it. The table below provides a quick guide to each component.

	Numeracy	Reading	Writing
Number of questions	45		1 (600 word limit)
Question type	Multiple-choice		Extended response
Time	50 minutes		60 minutes
Disability adjustments	A variety of adjustments are available		



Where can I see examples of the sorts of questions I can expect?

You can access the [Practice tests and the Example tests](#). These tests contain questions which range across Levels 1–4 of the [Australian Core Skills Framework](#).

The Practice test for each component is designed to enable you to become familiar with the test environment. It provides you with practice in using the test website functionality and experience in the types of questions you can expect in the reading, writing and numeracy components of the OLNA. It includes a set of 20 multiple-choice questions for reading; a set of 20 multiple-choice questions for numeracy and one writing prompt. You have 20 minutes to complete each component.

The Example test provides an indicative sample of the diversity of skills assessed. You can experience a complete assessment in the reading, writing and numeracy components. It includes a set of 45 multiple-choice questions for reading; a set of 45 multiple-choice questions for numeracy and one writing prompt. You have 50 minutes to complete the reading and numeracy components and 60 minutes to complete the writing component.



Can students use a pencil and paper in the assessment?

You may take a pen, pencil and eraser into the assessment. You will be given a sheet with your login details which can also be used as working out/planning paper for each component. You are **not permitted** to take into the examination room: mobile phones, Bluetooth/wireless/web-enabled devices, photographic or audio devices, headphones, calculators, dictionaries, thesauruses or notes.



Will my teachers be able to show me how to meet the standard?

Your teachers will be able to help you gain the knowledge and skills you will need. After each assessment, your teachers will also receive feedback on the areas in which improvement is required to demonstrate the skills required in each component (if you have not already done so). This will help teachers focus on those skills you need to achieve the standard.



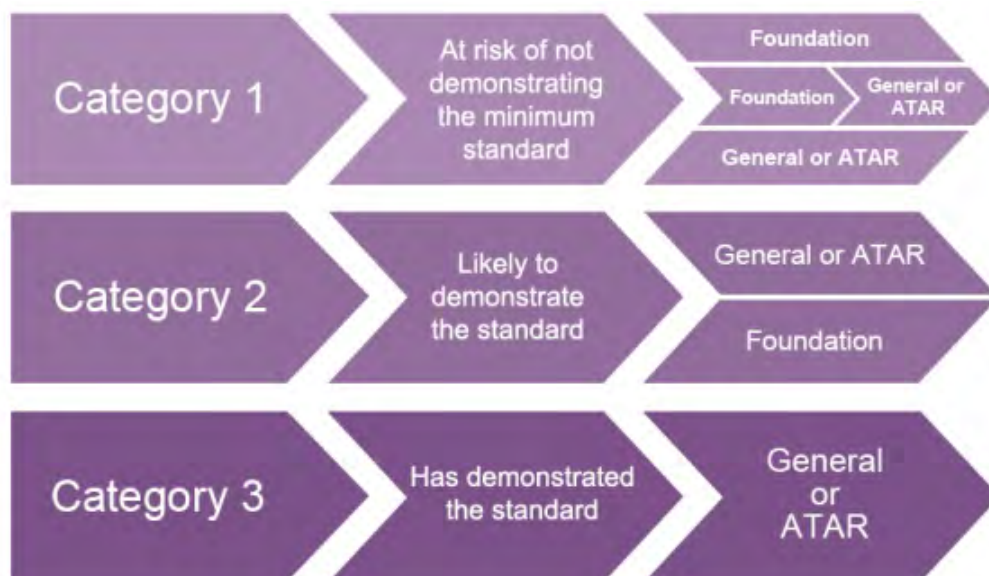
How will I find out the whether I have demonstrated the required literacy and numeracy standards?

The Authority reports on student achievement of the literacy and numeracy standards through the Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA) on completion of Year 12.

In the interim, your school will access reports that identify your category of achievement. If you did not demonstrate the standard through your Year 9 NAPLAN performance, you will need to do so through the OLNA. The standard is demonstrated through proficiency in the skills described in Level 3 of the [Australian Core Skills Framework](#). Do not interpret interim feedback in terms of pass or fail, but as indicators of the following:

- Category 1: Students who have not demonstrated proficiency in using a range of ACSF Level 3 skills in a component. These students have been identified as at risk of not demonstrating these skills and may require specific learning interventions.
- Category 2: Students who have not yet demonstrated proficiency in using a range of ACSF Level 3 skills in a component. They are likely to demonstrate these skills before the end of Year 12.
- Category 3: Students who have demonstrated proficiency in using a range of ACSF Level 3 skills in a component, either through the OLNA or through their performance in Year 9 NAPLAN.

The table following provides a quick guide to each category and the recommended enrolment path.





Is there extra help for me if I am struggling to meet the required standard?

You can enrol in Foundation courses if they are offered at your school. Foundation courses provide students with the support needed to demonstrate the minimum literacy and numeracy standard. The Authority also provides schools with feedback about the areas in which you need the most help. This will help teachers focus on those skills you need to achieve the standard.



Do I have to take maths in Year 11 and 12 if I have not demonstrated the numeracy standard?

It's not a requirement, but if you are at risk of not achieving the numeracy standard it may be best to enrol in the Mathematics Foundation course (if it is offered at your school) as this is designed to provide you with the skills required to meet the standard. The Authority recommends you discuss all your enrolment decisions with your parents and your school.



I have a diagnosed disability. What adjustments are available for me to access?

Most students will not need adjustments as the assessment has been designed to be accessible to nearly all students in the allotted time. We would therefore encourage you to give it a go under standard conditions, at least for the first time. However, schools can access and manage a range of adjustments for students with a diagnosed disability.



English isn't my first language. What considerations are there for me?

The assessment is a measure of your performance in Standard Australian English. We have checked all the questions to ensure those from a language background other than English can engage with them. We encourage you to speak with your teachers if you have concerns.

- If you have arrived from overseas, have a language background other than English and have been attending school in Australia for less than one year before an OLNA window you must be given the opportunity to sit the OLNA to be eligible to achieve a WACE. You may choose to defer sitting the OLNA until either you have been in Australia for 12 months or have entered mainstream schooling from an Intensive English Centre. However, you must be given the chance to sit the OLNA before the end of Year 12 to achieve a WACE. Please note that deferring the OLNA may limit your access to Foundation courses.
(See question: [Is there extra help for me if I am struggling to meet the required standard?](#))
- If you are studying for the WACE at an overseas school in which English is not the first language, you may defer sitting the OLNA until Round 2 of your first year of WACE study. Please note that deferring the OLNA may limit your access to Foundation courses.
(See question: [Is there extra help for me if I am struggling to meet the required standard?](#))



I am educated at home. Can I sit the OLNA?

As a home-educated student, you can access the OLNA at:

- a school
- a site with a supervisor approved by the Authority
- the Authority's offices.

Further information is available at <http://wace1516.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/olna/student,-parents-and-carers>



Where can I get further information?

More information is available on the [OLNA webpage](#) or by contacting the OLNA helpdesk on 9273 6726 or olna@scsa.wa.edu.au.